THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) No such report has so far been received by the Central Government.

Action against polluting industries

3046. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have deferred action against polluting industries which have failed to take air and water pollution control measures even after the expiry of deadline;

(b) if so, the reasons for relaxation of the deadline;

(c) whether a sizeable number of large and medium industrial units in a several key sectors would face closure under the provisions of Air and Water (pollution control) Acts; and

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal to assist industries financially?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Central Government, in consultation with the State Governments, has issued a notification under which:—

(i) An industry, operation or process which has commenced production on or before 16th May, 1981 and has shown adequate proof of at least commencement of physical work for establishment of facilities to meet the specified standards within a time-bound programme, to the satisfaction of the concerned, State Pollution Control Board, shall comply with such standards latest by the 31st day of December, 1993.

(ii) An industry operation or process which has commenced production after the 16th day of May, 1981 but before the 31st day of December, 1991 and has shown adequate proof of at least commencement of physical work for establishment of facilities to meet the specified standards within a time-bound programme, to the satisfaction of the concerned State Pollution Control Board, shall comply with such standards latest by the 31st day of December, 1992.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Convention on Ecology, Environment and Development

3047. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a convention on ecology, environment and development of Indian Peninsula is proposed to be organised during March, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of participants;

(c) whether Government propose to take any steps to ensure that convention achieves its objectives; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir. The Government is not aware of any such proposal.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Forest wealth in Orissa

3048. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the forest wealth in Orissa is being degraded every day;

(b) whether there is an urgent need for increasing forest coverage in Orissa;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard; and